



# Suffolk Intergroup Association

# Bulletin

November 2012

Volume 39 Number 7

## November Meetings

December 4<sup>th</sup> SIA Office  
7:30 PM SIA Officers' & Chairpersons' Meeting

December 5<sup>th</sup> SIA Office  
7:00 PM Archives  
\*\*Date has changed from 8pm on 4<sup>th</sup> Wed to  
7pm on 1<sup>st</sup> Wed

December 10<sup>th</sup>  
400 Sunrise Hwy, Amityville  
8:15 PM L.I.C.Y.P.A.A.

December 11<sup>th</sup> Cleary School for the Deaf,  
Ronkonkoma  
6:30 PM SIA Orientation  
6:30 PM Share-a-Thon  
7:30 PM SIA Meeting

December 18<sup>th</sup> SIA Office  
7:00 PM Public Information  
\*\*Date has changed from 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed to 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues

December 21<sup>st</sup> Trinity Lutheran Church,  
Rocky Point  
8:00 PM SGS Meeting



### "Catchy Quotes"

"Recovery is an inside job"

"I first came for my drinking,  
Now I come for my thinking."

Please submit your "catchy quotes" to:  
bulletins@suffolkny-aa.org

### "The Bulletin"

Is published monthly by the Suffolk Intergroup Association of Alcoholics Anonymous, PO Box 659 Patchogue, NY 11772. "Alcoholics Anonymous" and "AA" are registered trademarks of Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. Quotes from AAWS literature and AA Grapevine are used with permission and gratitude.

## REMAINING TEACHABLE

Service and Your Sobriety  
What is there to learn  
about yourself through service?

join us at The **BIG** Meeting  
Sponsored by Suffolk General Service  
In conjunction with Suffolk  
Intergroup Association

Food, Speakers, Entertainment  
and Fellowship

True North Community Church  
1101 Lakeland Ave, Bohemia, NY 11716

Saturday – November 10, 2012  
Doors Open 5:00pm  
Food 5:30pm  
Meeting 6:45pm

**Step Eleven** – Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God, as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.

**Tradition Eleven** – Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.

**Concept XI** – The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.

113-8 Bay Ave. / P.O. Box 659, Patchogue, NY 11772 (631) 654-1150

## SPECIAL EVENTS PRESENTS...



**On Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>  
Join us for an "AUTUMN WALK"**

**Explore the Highest Point on Long Island  
along the Walt Whitman Trail!  
It's a 3.8 mile loop at West Hills County Park in Melville!!**



**TI**

**NOTE, IT IS HILLY!**

**nittee to provide bottled water!!!  
scussion at 8:30am in the picnic area!**

**ng the meeting at around 10:00am**

**Our Guide from the Greenbelt Trail Conference, Shari, will once  
again lead us on our excursion!**

**PLEASE RSVP Paul H. at [specevent@suffolkny-aa.org](mailto:specevent@suffolkny-aa.org)  
or call the SIA office at (631) 654-1150**

Beginning Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> the **Brookhaven Women's Group**  
Step Meeting will be starting at 6:30pm (instead of 6:45pm) and  
ending at 7:45pm (instead of 8:00pm) because we are starting a *new*  
Big Book Meeting from 8:00pm to 9:00pm on Tuesdays.

**The Wilson Group** from Montauk made another nice donation to Suffolk Intergroup Association in memory of one of their members. Here is what they wrote:

Please accept this donation in loving memory of our beloved member: Frances B. She wanted to change her life and came to AA at the tender age of 85! She passed on a few weeks ago, sober 3 glorious years! Her enthusiasm, wisdom and laughter made our world a better place; we will greatly miss her too.

Sincerely,  
The Smith-Wilson Group  
in Montauk

### **OTHER AREA EVENTS:**

The **32<sup>nd</sup> Hispanic Convention of AA**, will be held at 8:00am on Saturday, November 3, 2012 & Sunday, November 4, 2012  
"The Future is in Your Hands"

La Guardia Plaza Hotel

104-04 Ditmars Blvd., East Elmhurst, Queens, NY 11369

For more info, contact Host 614 Manhattan Hispanic District at [hispanic@aaseny.org](mailto:hispanic@aaseny.org) or [www.aacdhseny49.org](http://www.aacdhseny49.org)

**SENY November 2012 Assembly**, is being hosted by the Bronx & Upper Manhattan GSC, on Saturday, November 3, 2012 from 10:00am to 3:00pm  
Our Saviour Lutheran Church & School  
1734 Williamsbridge Road (entrance on Yates Avenue)  
Bronx, NY 10461

Contact [chair@aaseny.org](mailto:chair@aaseny.org) or 718-409-3877

Some counties may be running buses to the assembly. Check with your DCMC (under "County Officers").



## FROM THE ARCHIVES CHAIR

During the first weekend in October, I had one of the most incredible service experiences that I have had in quite a while. I attended the National Alcoholics Anonymous Archives Workshop in Cocoa Beach, Florida. This yearly event is hosted by the local General Service area or district who bid to host it two years earlier. The workshop is four days long, beginning on Thursday with opening discussions about AA and archives and closing on Sunday with the bidding for the workshop location for two years in the future. The NAAAWS has been held in places such as Georgia, Colorado, Montana, and Niagara Falls. Next year it is going to be held in Springfield, Illinois. There is a field trip planned to go to the Lincoln Library and the Lincoln Museum and Log Cabin.

Because I have a great interest in oral histories, I went to the workshop specifically about oral histories. I learned that most of the archivists who conduct oral histories use the Oral History Kit that is in the Archive Workbook from the General Service Office and pick the questions that are suitable for their region as well as what they are trying to accomplish. Some oral histories are done simply to document a long-timer's story, while others are done to create a timeline of what AA was like in their district during certain time periods. Although it is interesting to bring a few long-timer's together to discuss AA, many archivists stated that it is difficult to listen to the oral history and impossible to transcribe it because the people tended to speak over each other unless they were very careful to not interrupt each other. I really enjoyed this workshop and felt it would help us to do our oral histories in the future.

I also attended the workshop about the archives and the digital age. The discussion focused on software, digital recorders, and different forms of digital preservation. First of all, I learned that, as we start to scan all our documents, we probably should save them as PDF-A in order to preserve the "fonts" so that the document will print out exactly the same 50 years from now as it does today. Also, when we replace our "lost" digital recorders, we can find software that will work with them to do the transcribing automatically for the oral histories. Pictures should be printed on acid free paper and the information about picture should be written separately, not on the photo. Most importantly, all archive information should be backed up!!! Flash drives are a great way to back up data!

The best workshop for me was the one in which I refreshed my skills on encapsulating our precious documents and photos. Recently, I found something that had writing on it and it was signed by Bill. Assuming that this is Bill Wilson, then this item needs to be encapsulated properly, and this workshop detailed the steps of how to de-acidify, center and seal the document so that the environment will not destroy it. I had been taught this procedure by the former SENY preservationist, but the refresher course was extremely valuable. I also found out how to fix our valuable books- but more importantly, I learned that we can have this AA member fix our books if we ever need to!

In my report to the SIA representatives on October 9th, I stated that I would be recommending to the Archive Committee that we do not send the same person to this event year after year, but rather, we send the new Archive Chair the first year of their rotation and then, if the budget allows, a different person the following year. The reason for this is that this event is so educational that anyone who is interested in archives should go and be exposed to the information that I had the privilege of learning on this weekend. I learned so much more about archives than I could have imagined possible. I want that experience for every person who seriously wants to work with the SIA Archives Committee.

I would like to thank SIA and the SIA representatives for the privilege of serving and having been able to experience the National AA Archives Workshop.

Wishing you peace in service, Cyndy Fitzpatrick

**From the Archives** - This history and others like it can be viewed at [www.suffolkaaarchives.com](http://www.suffolkaaarchives.com).

### Huntington Group

Old First Church, 125 Main Street, Huntington, NY

Formed in January 1946, the Huntington Group is one of the oldest - if not the oldest - group in Suffolk County. The Alcoholics Anonymous World Services in Manhattan has a handwritten letter from Bill W. congratulating them on their first Anniversary, January 8, 1947. The group met twice a week having a closed meeting on Mondays at the Elks club on Main Street and an open meeting on Wednesday at the Southside Civic Association (1/4 mile before Jericho Turnpike on New York Avenue). The group continued at these locations until 1956 when it moved to the Old First Church across the street from the present Town Hall. You would enter through the back, go down the stairs and make a right down the long hallway to the meeting room, Curt recalls. Sometime in the late 80's, the meeting room switched to the southeast corner of the church under the ballroom.

The Huntington Group was an offshoot of the Garden City Group. The Manhasset and Baldwin Groups were also offshoots of the Garden city Group.

It is known that Bill W. came to Huntington Old First Church in the early days. On May 23rd 2004 Huntington celebrated its 58th group anniversary.

**SIA Officers & Chair people 2012-2013**  
**631-654-1150 [www.suffolkny-aa.org](http://www.suffolkny-aa.org)**

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Official email address</u>
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**Committee Chairs**

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Official email address</u>
Archives	Cyndy F.	archives@suffolkny-aa.org
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Webmaster	Martin	webmaster@suffolkny-aa.org

**What do you like best about your sobriety?**

Please write to [bulletins@suffolkny-aa.org](mailto:bulletins@suffolkny-aa.org) and share with us what you like best about your sobriety! We'd love to read about it in next month's Bulletin!

**FROM THE ARCHIVES COMMITTEE**

Would you like to learn about the history of AA in Suffolk County?

The SIA Archive Committee is looking for AA members to join us to preserve our history and carry the AA message.

We meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month from 7:00-8:30pm at the SIA Office, 113 Bay Avenue in Patchogue. Questions? Contact Cyndy at [archives@suffolkny-aa.org](mailto:archives@suffolkny-aa.org)

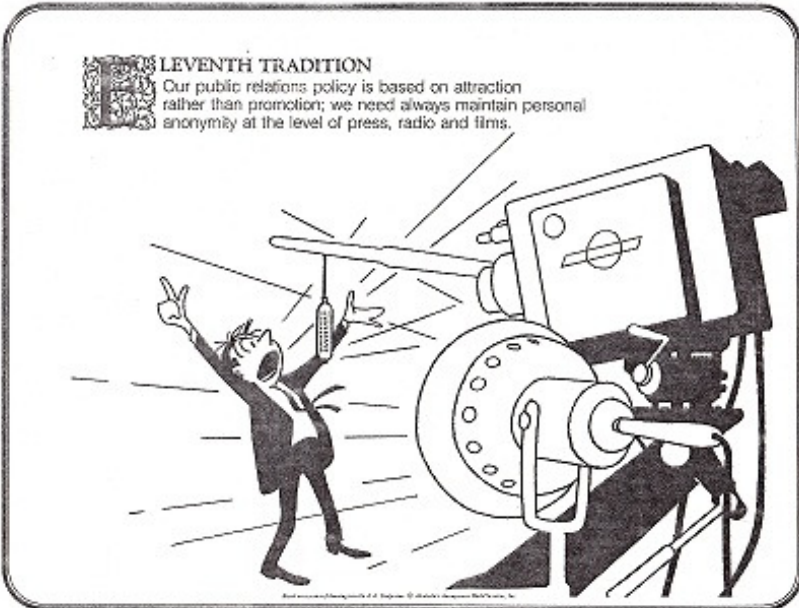
Are you interested in writing something for the Bulletin?

Do you wish to share your experience, strength, and hope with others?

Is your Home Group having an event you'd like announced?

If so, please email [bulletins@suffolkny-aa.org](mailto:bulletins@suffolkny-aa.org)

*Please note:*  
 All submissions must be emailed by the 25th of the previous month.



**Please note:**

Inclusion of articles and announcements in The Bulletin does not constitute AA endorsement. Rather, members of the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous have been encouraged to share their experience, strength and hope through this humble publication. Opinions expressed are those of the writer unless otherwise noted. Suffolk Intergroup Association makes these announcements solely as a service to the reader, not as an endorsement.

*Please remember,  
 we aim for progress not perfection!*

***I Am Responsible...  
 When anyone, anywhere,  
 reaches out for help,  
 I want the hand of A.A.  
 always to be there.  
 And for that: I am responsible.***